## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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R 111115Z JUN 75 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1497 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW USMISSION NATO

CONFIDENTIAL ROME 8322

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, IT, UR

SUBJECT: GROMYKO TO VISIT ITALY

- 1. A FOREIGN MINISTRY SOURCE HAS INFORMED US IN CONFIDENCE THAT SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREY GROMYKO WILL ARRIVE IN ROME JUNE 26 FOR TWO DAYS (JUNE 27-28) OF TALKS WITH ITALIAN OFFICIALS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SOVIET-ITALIAN AGREEMENT ON POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE CALLS FOR GROMYKO TO DEPART FROM ITALY JUNE 29.
- 2. COMMENT. OUR SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE VISIT HAS BEEN HASTILY ARRANGED. BASED ON POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS IN MOSCOW AT THE END OF MAY AT THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS LEVEL, THE ITALIANS HAD BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THAT GROMYKO WOULD BE UNABLE TO COME TO ROME UNTIL SEPTEMBER. PRESUMABLY SOVIETS HAVE DECIDED THAT A VISIT AT THE END OF JUNE WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THE POLITICAL SITUATION WITHIN ITALY IN THE WAKE OF THE IMPORTANT REGIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 15-16. ADDITIONALLY, IT MAY BE AIMED AT SOOTHING THE ITALIANS' RUFFLED FEATHERS OVER THE CONTINUING SOVIET DELAY IN FIXING A DATE FOR THE VISIT OF GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV TO ITALY. VOLPE

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released	US Department of	State EO Systematic	Review 06 JUL 2006

## Message Attributes

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Subject: GROMYKO TO VISIT ITALY
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, IT, UR, (GROMYKO, ANDREY)
To: STATE

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